



**Relevant Topics:** Civil War, Abraham Lincoln, Fort Sumter

**Suggested Time:** 1-3 Class Periods (Some activities may take a full class period)

**Grade Level(s):** 5th, 8th, 11th

**Standard(s):**

**NCSS:**

**Elementary:**

- I. Culture (d)
- II. Time, Continuity, & Change (c)
- III. People, Places, & Environments (h)

**Middle:**

- I. Culture (d)
- II. Time, Continuity, & Change (b,c)
- III. People, Places, & Environments (h)

**High:**

- II. Time, Continuity, & Change (b,c)
- III. People, Places, & Environments (h)
- VI. Power, Authority, and Governance (a,b)

**GPS:**

**SS5H1:**

The student will explain the causes, major events, and consequences of the Civil War. **(STRANDS C, D, E)**

**SS8H6:**

The student will analyze the impact of the Civil War and Reconstruction on Georgia. **(STRANDS A & B)**

**SSUSH9:**

The student will identify key events, issues, and individuals relating to the causes, course, and consequences of the Civil War. **(STRANDS B, C, D)**



**Essential Question:** What causes conflict within nations?

**Learning Objectives:**

1. List/Summarize/Explain the events leading up to the firing on Ft. Sumter.
2. Describe/Discuss issues faced by soldiers and civilians during the war.
3. Explain the composition of the army.

**Brief Description of Content:**

This lesson will allow students to understand the events leading up to the Civil War, ranging from the Election of 1860 to the firing of Ft. Sumter. In addition, the students will gain an understanding of the creation of the Confederate States of America. This lesson will also help students better comprehend the composition of an army.

**Assessment(s):**

Timeline, Regimental Flag Design, Creative Writing Assignment, Matching Game

**Materials:** [War Has Been Declared](#) ; [Design a Regimental Flag](#) ; [Matching Game](#) ;

**Instructional Methods:**

**Hook:**

Review content from [A Nation Divided](#) Lesson Plan. Have students present their solutions to the growing sectionalism of the United States.

**Content:**

**Activity 1: Timeline Activity**

1. Use the Have students create a timeline using events listed below. Students should also include a visual representation for each event.
  - Missouri Compromise, Compromise of 1850, Dred Scott Decision, Election of Lincoln, each state's Secession, creation of the Confederate States of America, firing on Ft. Sumter.

**Activity 2: Design A Regimental Flag**



1. Use the **Design A Regimental Flag** template to have students create a flag design.

**Activity 3: Matching Game**

**Activity 4: Speech to Soldiers**

1. Have your students complete the following writing prompt:  
Imagine that you are the General of an Army. You and your troops are preparing for battle the next morning. They are very nervous. What will you say to them to inspire the courage for them to fight?

**Conclusion:** Have volunteers present their speeches to the class.